Comment 26:

What is the timeframe on the availability of the funds?

Response:

The State will submit the Action Plan by April 24, 2017. HUD has 60 days to evaluate the plan. Then there are additional time periods where the State submits its initial environmental documentation and Request for Release of Funds. This entire process is likely to take until August. Thus, as you see in the draft Action Plan, the State anticipates the launch of its programs during the third quarter of 2017.

Comment 27:

Who will conduct the community outreach to inform the citizens when the funds are available?

Response:

The State and the WV VOADs will handle the outreach and target the individuals living in HIGH and MEDIUM SoVI areas that are eligible for the funds.

Comment 28:

Is there enough demand to support the buyout program?

Response:

West Virginia appreciates the question and will review data regarding known need to inform its final allocation proposal.

The Substantial Amendment to the West Virginia CDBG-DR Action Plan was published on October 20, 2017 to the Department of Commerce's website and the Rise West Virginia Flood Recovery website. URL links are provided below.

Department of Commerce website: http://www.wvcommerce.org/people/communityresources/wvdisasterrecovery/ RISE West Virginia Flood Recovery Website: http://wvfloodrecovery.com/useful-resources/

A Notice of Public Meeting was circulated in the following local newspapers, announcing the public meeting that was held on November 2, 2017 at 6 pm at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in Lewisburg.

Bluefield Daily Telegraph, Bluefield, WV
Charleston Gazette, Charleston, WV
Herald-Dispatch, Huntington, WV
The Journal, Martinsburg, WV
Dominion Post, Morgantown, WV
Parkersburg News, Parkersburg, WV
The Register-Herald, Beckley, WV
Wheeling News Register, Wheeling, WV

A total of fifteen (15) stakeholders attended the meeting. The following public comments were received at the public meeting or by email.

Comment 1:

The public comment is too short. It should be extended because a lot of people are not aware of the modifications.

Response:

The State followed its Citizen Participation Plan as outlined in Section XIV and found on page 140, which allows for a fourteen (14) day public comment period. The State will continue to consider public comments received after the public comment period has concluded.

Comment 2:

Each program does not state that 80% of funds must be spent in the Most Impacted and Distressed (MID) areas. Is the 80% required per program or overall?

Response:

Overall. 80% of the total grant amount must benefit the Most Impacted and Distressed (MID) areas as outlined in Section 1 of the Action Plan.

Comment 3:

The scoring methodology in the economic development program is a little lopsided based on the population in some of the municipalities. Not all the municipalities are going to be able to generate 100 or more jobs in their area. So, I think it should be weighted a little differently, maybe based on a percentage of population. An example would be where if a town of 100 people was able to create 20 jobs, that's a high percentage of their total population. But where a larger municipality, such as Charleston with a population of over 50,000 people, creates 100 jobs, that's a much smaller percentage. So, I think weighting it a little differently would be good.

Response:

In response to this public comment, the State has altered the scoring criteria of the Rise West Virginia Economic Development Program, found on page 126, to award points to projects based on a lower threshold of jobs created or retained to more accurately reflect the small and rural nature of the many communities that were affected by the flood.

Comment 4:

Regarding scoring (ex. in the multifamily housing program), will local authorities have the chance to weigh in on the projects that are ultimately vetted and awarded? They should be given the chance to recommend projects that they believe will fit well within the fabric of their community.

Response:

The State will continue to coordinate efforts with federal, state, regional, and local partners to ensure consistency in delivery of the programs undertaken as outlined in this action plan. As outlined in the program details found on page 125, once a project is proposed, the WVDO may require a meeting with relevant parties to discuss the project.

Comment 5:

Part of the economic development program states that there is assistance for broadband activities. I just don't see how the scoring correlates to those types of programs. They won't create a lot of jobs that will affect a lot of people.

Response:

During the State's outreach period and reassessment of unmet need, it was noted that there is still a lot of broadband disconnection across the disaster declared counties. Local communities have lost businesses and are unable to attract new businesses because neighboring states are more connected to broadband services. The State also heard that many small business owners must visit their local libraries to conduct business online. This affects their capacity to build and grow their businesses. Because of the feedback on broadband received from the affected communities, the State worked with HUD to design the Rise West Virginia Economic Development Program to be able to fund eligible broadband activities should projects be proposed which are able to achieve a national objective. The consistent feedback received by the State is that by upgrading or providing broadband infrastructure so that services can be provided to areas, jobs will be both retained and created as West Virginian's gain access to the world's economy.

Comment 6:

At the Impact Summit held in September, the State originally proposed a standalone broadband program with a \$6 million allocation. Why did it change?

Response:

The State must substantiate its proposed program activities based on unmet need associated with direct or indirect impacts of the disaster and how the activity will meet such unmet need. Multiple broadband projects were contemplated by the State, but those contemplated do not yet meet the eligibility criteria for CDBG-DR funding. Thus, to allow additional development time and broaden the opportunities for West Virginia's impacted areas, the State included broadband projects as a potential eligible activity under the newly created Rise West Virginia Economic Development Program. This approach will ensure projects are properly vetted and selected based on a project's ability to fund an eligible activity and achieve a HUD national objective.

Comment 7:

At the Impact Summit held in September, the State originally proposed a much larger allocation to the slum and blight program. Why was the allocation decreased?

Response:

The data analysis the State performed as required by the assessment of unmet need shows that the current program of funds meets the need for removal of slum and blight in the affected counties. If future data shows more need, the State will revisit this allocation amount and consider reprogramming funds.

Comment 8:

Are there options for funding capacity-building activities in these small communities, such as a circuit rider program or hiring a city manager that can oversee a few communities at one time?

Response:

The State will consult with HUD on the eligibility for funding this type of activity and will work with local jurisdictions to address their capacity issues as part of the planning activities outlined on page 127.

Comment 9:

Can planning funds be used for asset and capability mapping? We've had many volunteers log many man hours and it's been a challenge to map the resources. We need better coordination for future disasters for standing up and hosting volunteers.

Response:

The State will consider all eligible activities in its disaster recovery and response plan that address long-term recovery. All associated activities will have a focus on the full development of a comprehensive resiliency strategy for the State.

Comment 10:

When does the application period end?

Response:

The application period for the housing repair program will end November 30. The State reserves the right to extend the application period if need is demonstrated.

Comment 11:

How long will case management services be available?

Response:

Case managers will be available to assist applicants until construction is complete and closeout of their case is performed.

Comment 12:

Absentee landlords are a problem across the area. What programs will help alleviate this issue?

Response:

The State believes the housing programs currently designed will help in providing decent, safe, and sanitary housing to owners and tenants. All applications to the program will be required to remain in compliance with HUD housing quality standards for a period of three years. Additionally, the State hopes to demolish up to 300 properties through its slum and blight removal program.

Comment 13:

Will the State be coordinating with the county and city level officials on planning activities?

Response:

Yes. The State will conduct community outreach and implementation of neighborhood recovery strategies with its planning allocation.

Comment 14:

Are there opportunities for administrative costs to be reimbursed to the counties and cities for providing the unmet needs data to the State?

Response:

In accordance with 2 CFR 200 and 24 CFR 570, only grantees and subrecipients can incur administrative costs that are eligible for reimbursement with CDBG-DR funds.

Comment 15:

Please consider properties outside the floodway for prioritization in the slum and blight program.

Response:

Through its outreach efforts, the State has heard that many of the properties in the floodway have flooded repeatedly and have been abandoned by their owners. It is the intention of the State to move affected residents out of the floodway to escape the effects of future flooding and make the state more resilient. Prioritizing properties located in the floodway first will ensure that residents can relocate out of harm's way and into more safe housing utilizing the State's other housing programs.

Comment 16:

Sustaining jobs should be a larger piece of the scoring criteria for economic development projects.

Response:

The scoring criteria outlined on page 126 indicates awarding of points based on jobs created OR retained.

Comment 17:

Can you match CDBG-DR funds to other federal programs besides HMGP, such as EPA?

Response:

Yes; however, CDBG-DR funds used for FEMA or other federal match must still demonstrate that those funds are being used for a CDBG-DR eligible activity. The project must comply with all CDBG-DR rules, including national objective, eligible costs, cross cutting federal requirements, etc. It is not sufficient to simply comply with FEMA or other federal agency rules.

Comment 18:

There are many private bridges in need of the type of service provided under the Bridge Home Program. The eligible criteria should not be limited to bridges that serve at least two bridges. Please consider changing the eligible criteria to include bridges that serve only one residence.

Response:

The State, through its outreach efforts and coordination with the VOAD, has heard that many bridges affected by the flood serve only one home. It is estimated by the data provided by VOAD that the requirement to serve two homes will effectively cause over 80% of potential applicants to be ineligible for assistance. Therefore, the State has edited the Bridge Home Program requirements to provide for assistance to bridges that serve only one residence as indicated on page 118. The requirement that the home be a primary residence is unchanged.

Comment 19:

Some of the applications will be for assistance for bridges that serve more than one home. Those bridges will need to withstand higher volumes of traffic and the design of these bridges will require more than \$30,000. Can there be exceptions to the \$30,000 grant limit?

Response:

Yes. The State will allow exceptions to the \$30,000 grant limit as outlined on page 119.

Comment 20:

I am reviewing the proposed amendments to the CDBG Action Plan, and I am comfortable with the changes as presented. I particularly am in favor of the approach to allocating monies to economic development for projects to support the local economy for the people who will be living in the housing components of the plan.

Response:

Thank you for the comment and your support of the economic development program.

APPENDIX B: WVDO ACTION PLAN PUBLIC MEETING PRESENTATION



West Virginia CDBG – DR Action Plan

COMMUNITY BRIEFING
APRIL 4, 2017 & APRIL 5, 2017

Recovery Coordination: Federal Partners











Recovery Coordination: State Partners















Recovery Coordination: Regional Partners







Recovery Coordination: Non-Profits

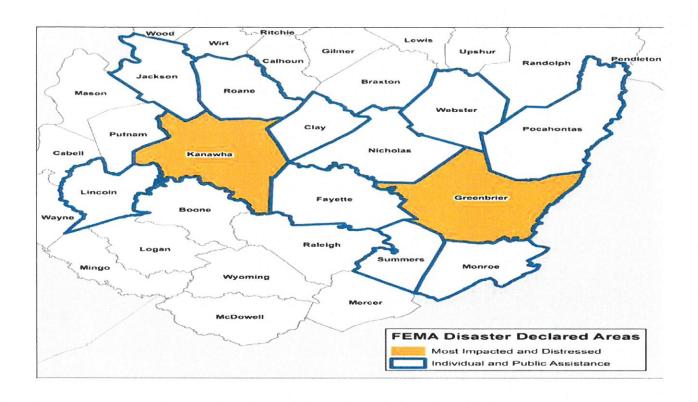






Overview of \$104M CDBG-DR Award

- Congress appropriated over \$2 billion in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds for states that were declared to have suffered a major disaster by the President of the United States in 2016.
- Based on HUD's assessment of unmet need, the State of West Virginia was notified that it will receive two allocations totaling \$104,280,000 in CDBG-DR funding for recovery programs stemming from the flood.



Overview of \$104M CDBG-DR Award

- 12 counties are eligible for assistance
- 80% of funds **must** be spent in Greenbrier & Kanawha Counties as they were deemed "most impacted and distressed" by HUD.
- 70% of funds must benefit low- to moderate-income (LMI) persons
- HUD is requiring the State to primarily address housing needs
- All funded activities must meet 1 of 3 HUD national objectives:
 - 1. Benefit persons of low- and moderate-income, or
 - 2. Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight, or
 - 3. Meet other urgent community development needs

Proposed Programs

Up to Code Housing Restoration Program (Up to Code)

Rental Assistance Program (RAP)

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Match

Strategic Buyout and Acquisition Program

Bridge Home Program

Riverview Rehabilitation Project



UP TO CODE HOUSING RESTORATION PROGRAM

Objective: Provide housing assistance to LMI (low- to moderate-income) households in the 12 counties.

CDBG-DR Allocation: \$64.4 million

Eligibility Requirement: Single family homes and mobile homes that are the primary residence of the homeowner

Program Priorities: FEMA designated damages, LMI households, High or medium social vulnerability (SoVI®) score, no flood insurance

Estimated Households to be Served: 1,000

RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Objective and Description: Rehabilitation and repair of rental property impacted by the flood

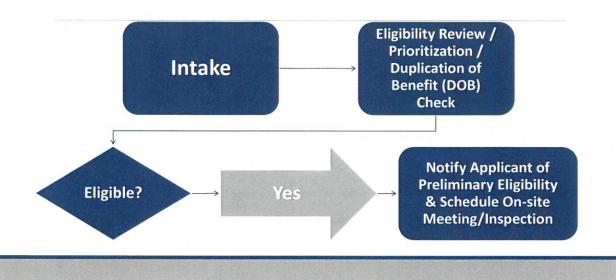
CDBG-DR Allocation: \$16 million

Eligibility Requirement: Rental property occupied as the <u>primary residence</u> of a tenant.

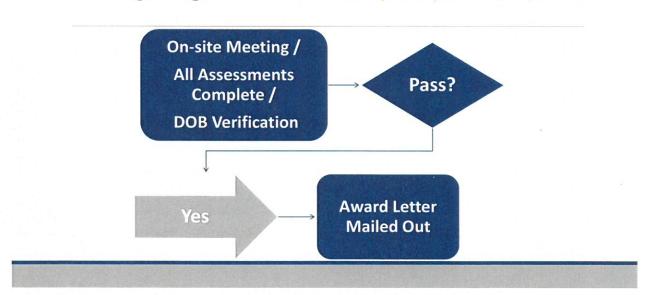
Program Priorities: FEMA designated damages, LMI tenant household, High or medium social vulnerability (SoVI®) score, no flood insurance.

Estimated Households to be Served: 300

Housing Program Process: Intake and Eligibility



Housing Program Process: Inspection and Award



Housing Program Process: Award Example

Applicant's Total Eligible Damage \$55,000

Previous Duplicative Assistance

FEMA Repair Grant (\$8,200)

SBA Disaster Home Loan \$0

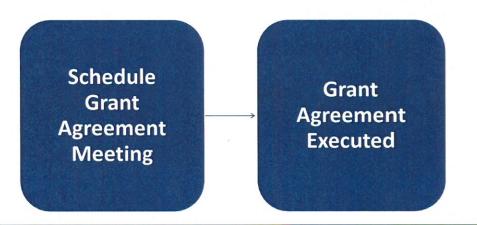
Flood Insurance \$0

VOAD Assistance (\$10,000)

Total Duplicative Assistance (\$18,200)

Maximum Eligible CDBG-DR Award \$36,800

Housing Programs Process: Grant Agreement



Housing Programs Process: Closeout



HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM/ CDBG – DR MATCH PROGRAM

Objective: Leverage CDBG-DR funds to provide State's required 25% local match for the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).

CDBG-DR Allocation: \$11.44 million

Eligible Applicants: Homeowners, Counties, Municipalities, Public Housing Authorities, eligible private non-profit organizations

Eligible Activities: Housing activities; property acquisition and demolition (stick-built homes/MHUs); property elevation; infrastructure improvements or replacement.

STRATEGIC BUYOUT / ACQUISITION PROGRAM

Objective of Buyout: Will aim to relocate residential property owners in Clendenin to replacement homes outside the floodplain. Projects will be targeted for specific flood mitigation purposes.

Objective of Acquisition: Acquire contiguous properties for redevelopment of property; priority is the new construction of a 18+ unit rental property prioritized for seniors

Eligibility Requirements: Properties must be located in the floodplain OR in a Disaster Risk Reduction Area

CDBG - DR Allocation: \$4.5 million

BRIDGE HOME PROGRAM

Objective and Description: Will repair privately owned bridges that provide the primary access point to at least two residences.

Program Priority: Eligible applicants of the Up to Code or Rental Assistance Program.

CDBG - DR Allocation: \$2.08 million

The State will leverage the VOAD's labor, permitting procedures, and experience with rebuilding bridges.



RESTORE RIVERVIEW PROJECT

Objective and Description: Rehabilitation of the Riverview property in Clendenin damaged by the floods, to include restoration of the third floor rental units and the first floor training and office space. The project will restore 10 rental units, 6 of which will be required to benefit LMI persons.

Eligibility Requirements: Use of the first floor office and training space will require a tenant or owner to ensure that 51% of the jobs created as a result of the restoration are held by LMI persons.

CDBG - DR Allocation: \$1,500,000

FAIR HOUSING ACT

The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination against any of the following protected classes:



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

- Race
- Color
- National Origin
- Religion
- Sex
- Familial Status
- Handicap / Disability

FAIR HOUSING ACT



The Fair Housing Act prohibits:

- Discrimination in the rental or sale of housing;
- Discrimination in the terms, conditions, privileges, services or facilities of housing;
- Making, printing, or publishing discriminatory advertisements; and
- Representing that housing is unavailable to a protected class when housing is actually available

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

Public comments will be received until April 17, 2017.

Email: DisasterRecovery@WV.gov

U.S. Mail: West Virginia Development Office

1900 Kanawha Blvd., East Capitol Complex

Building 6, Room 553 Charleston, WV 25305-0311

APPENDIX C:

Table 23

Name ¹	Address	0. 1		Exclusive des
Name	Address	County	Date Contacted	Damage Y/N
Agsten Manor	715 Randolph St. Charleston, WV 25302	Kanawha	2/6/17	No
Alderson Apartments	200 Maple Ave. Alderson, WV 24910	Greenbrier	2/16/17	No
Assaley Place Apartments	1532 Jackson St. Charleston, WV 25311	Kanawha	2/6/17	No
Brook Village	348 Northridge Dr. Lewisburg, WV 24901	Greenbrier	Unable to contact	N/A
Brooks Manor	23 Brooks St. Charleston, WV 25301	Kanawha	2/6/17	No
Carriage Hill Apartments	101 Surrey Ter. St. Albans, WV 25177	Kanawha	Unable to contact	N/A
Charleston Arbors	100 Washington St. E Charleston, WV 25301	Kanawha	2/7/17	No
Charleston Replacement Housing	700 Patrick St. Charleston, WV 25387	Kanawha	3/1/17	No Response
Charleston/Kanawha Housing Authority	1525 Washington St. W Charleston, WV 25387	Kanawha	2/7/17	No
chelyan Village Apartments	205 Appalachian St. Cabin Creek, WV 25035	Kanawha	2/7/17	No Response
Chesterfield Village	5250 Chesterfield Ave. Charleston, WV 25304	Kanawha	2/16/17	No Response
Community Housing, nc.	1573 Jackson St. Charleston, WV 25311	Kanawha	2/6/17	No
oncord House I & II	5511 Noyes Ave. Charleston, WV 25304	Kanawha	2/6/17	No
RH 1 Public Housing	711 Patrick St. Charleston, WV 25387	Kanawha	Unable to contact	N/A
RH 3 Washington lanor & Littlepage	100 IDA Mae Way Charleston, WV 25301	Kanawha	2/21/17	No Response

Name ¹	Address	County	Date Contacted	Damage Y/N
CRH 4 Orchard Elderly	321 Copenhaver Dr. Charleston, WV 25387	Kanawha	Unable to contact	N/A
CRH 8 Legion Prezioso	1727 Seventh Ave. Charleston, WV 25387	Kanawha	Unable to contact	N/A
Cross Lanes Unity Apts.	101 Unity Ln. Charleston, WV 25313	Kanawha	2/6/17	No
Dunbar Towers	1000 Myers Ave. Dunbar, WV 25064	Kanawha	2/6/17	No
EL - Elderly	701 E Edgar Ave. Ronceverte, WV 24970	Greenbrier	2/1/17	No Response
EL - Elderly	1300 Third Ave. W Montgomery, WV 25136	Kanawha	2/7/17	No
EL - Elderly	303 Austin St. Lewisburg, WV 24901	Greenbrier	2/7/17	No
EL - Elderly	205 Appalachian St. Cabin Creek, WV 25035	Kanawha	2/7/17	No Response
EL - Elderly	41 Surber Rd. White Sulphur Springs, WV 24986	Greenbrier	2/7/17	No Response
Elk Crossing Apartments	1511 Frame Rd. Elkview, WV 25071	Kanawha	2/28/17	No
Elk Valley I	295 S Pinch Rd. Elkview, WV 25071	Kanawha	2/16/17	No Response
Elk Valley II Apartments	301 S Pinch Rd. Elkview, WV 25071	Kanawha	2/16/17	No Response
Elk Valley II Apartments	307 S Pinch Rd. Elkview, WV 25071	Kanawha	3/1/17	Yes
Elle Bella Villa	100 Everette Ln. Dunbar, WV 25064	Kanawha	2/24/17	No
FA - Family	1000 Blake Ave. Ronceverte, WV 24970	Greenbrier	2/1/17	No Response

Name ¹	Address	County	Date Contacted	Damage Y/N
FA - Family	601 Ferrell Rd. St. Albans, WV 25177	Kanawha	2/6/17	No
FA - Family	301 S Pinch Rd. Elkview, WV 25071	Kanawha	2/7/17	No
FA - Family	316 Amanita Dr. S. Charleston, WV 25309	Kanawha	2/7/17	No
FA - Family	5270 Dewitt Rd. Cross Lanes, WV 25313	Kanawha	2/7/17	No Response
FA - Family	2001 Teresa Ln. Sissonville, WV 25320	Kanawha	2/7/17	No Response
Glenwood School Place	810 Grant St. Charleston, WV 25302	Kanawha	2/20/17	No
Greenbrier Senior Housing	268 Greenbrier St. Rupert, WV 25984	Greenbrier	2/20/17	No
Greystone & Legion Townhomes	1904 Washington St. W. Charleston, WV 25387	Kanawha	3/1/17	No Response
Highview Unity Apartments	701 Garvin Ave. Charleston, WV 25302	Kanawha	2/6/17	No
Homes of Washington Manor (CRH 5)	600 Clendenin St. Charleston, WV	Kanawha	3/1/17	No Response
Housing Authority of the City of Dunbar	900 Dutch Hollow Rd. Dunbar, WV 25064	Kanawha	2/20/17	No Response
Housing Authority of the City of South Charleston	520 Goshom St. S. Charleston, WV 25309	Kanawha	2/7/17	No
Housing Authority of the City of St. Albans	650 6th St. St. Albans, WV 25177	Kanawha	2/20/17	No Response
Jacob Arbors	521 Jacob St. Charleston, WV 25301	Kanawha	2/7/17	No
Jenna Landing Apartments	308 Jenna Way Sissonville, WV 25320	Kanawha	2/24/17	No
Knollview Village Apartments	571 Maccorkle Ave. SW St. Albans, WV 25177	Kanawha	3/1/17	Yes

Name ¹	Address	County	Date Contacted	Damage Y/N
Lewis Terrace/Tabor Tower	313 N Court St. Lewisburg, WV 24901	Greenbrier	2/8/17	No
Lewisburg Manor	344 N. Court St. Lewisburg, WV 24901	Greenbrier	2/21/17	No
Lynnelle Landing Apartments	408 Loretta Ln. S. Charleston, WV 25309	Kanawha	2/24/17	No
Meg Village	1 Meg Dr. Sissonville, WV 25320	Kanawha	2/7/17	No Response
Mill Creek Landing Apartments	1 Wise Acres Dr. Charleston, WV 25311	Kanawha	2/24/17	No
MX - Mixed	364 Pennsylvania Ave. Rainelle, WV 25962	Greenbrier	2/7/17	No
Oakwood Terrace	872 Westminister Way Charleston, WV 25314	Kanawha	2/6/17	No
Pentecostal Holiness Church Housing Corp.	101 Miracle Dr. Saint Albans, WV 25177	Kanawha	2/21/17	No Response
Perkins Parke Apartments	100 Drexel Pl. Cross Lanes, WV 25313	Kanawha	2/24/17	No
Pocatalico Village	2005 Teresa Ln. Sissonville, WV 25320	Kanawha	2/7/17	No Response
Rivermont Homes, Inc.	800 4th Ave. Apt B Montgomery, WV 25136	Kanawha	2/6/17	No
Riverview Towers	1 Kanawha Ter. Saint Albans, WV 25177	Kanawha	2/6/17	No
Robinson Estates (Dupont Ave.)	118 E Dupont Ave. Belle, WV 25015	Kanawha	Unable to contact	N/A
Robinson Estates (Gardner Ave.)	109 E Gardner Ave. Belle, WV 25015	Kanawha	Unable to contact	N/A
Sewell Landing Apartments	706 Pennsylvania Ave. Rainelle, WV 25962	Greenbrier	2/27/17	YES
South Charleston Unity Apartments	4718 Kanawha Ave. SW S. Charleston, WV 25309	Kanawha	2/6/17	No

Name ¹	Address	County	Date Contacted	Damage Y/N
Southmoor Hills Apartments	5019 Kingswood Dr. S. Charleston, WV 25309	Kanawha	2/20/17	No
Southmoor Hills Apartments	4992 Richland Dr. Apt C S. Charleston, WV 25309	Kanawha	2/6/17	No
Spruce Cove Apartments	2010 Quarrier St. Charleston, WV 25311	Greenbrier	Unable to contact	N/A
The Village on Park	1600 Park Ave. Nitro, WV 25143	Kanawha	2/16/17	No
Thomas Patrick Maroney Unity Apartments, Inc.	1004 Lewis St. Charleston, WV 25301	Kanawha	2/6/17	No
Tyler Heights Apartments	100 Tyler Ridge Rd. Cross Lanes, WV 25313	Kanawha	2/24/17	No
Upper Falls Landing Apartments	1300 Third Ave. W Montgomery, WV 25136	Kanawha	2/24/17	No
Vandalia Terrace Apartments	1507 Dorchester Rd. Charleston, WV 25303	Kanawha	2/6/17	No
Vickers Parke Apartments	316 Amanita Dr. S. Charleston, WV 25309	Kanawha	2/24/17	No
Vista View Apartments	1300 Renaissance Cir. Charleston, WV 25311	Kanawha	2/16/17	No Response
Vista View Apartments	1300 Renaissance Cir. Charleston, WV 25311	Kanawha	3/1/17	No
Wilshere Landing Apartments	719 Northridge Dr. Lewisburg, WV 24901	Greenbrier	Unable to contact	N/A

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